

DELIVER GOODS IS DEMAND OF UNION

44-hour Week Was Agreed Upon by Both Parties Says Secretary

"At a time when honesty and frankness in all economic matters were never more necessary, it seems to me that the Employing Printers' association of Tulsa is dodging and dodging the point at issue in the 44-hour controversy in the commercial printing trades when they charge the union printers with attempting to inject radical and bolshevik principles into the industry," Andrew Hays, president of the Tulsa Typographical Union, said yesterday.

"Less than three months ago, and with full knowledge of all efforts of the union printers were making to secure a shorter working week, President Harding took the Typographical union oath at a meeting of the chapter of the Marion (Ohio) war, which he owns, and today carries a union printer's card in his pocket. So far I have heard no one charged Mr. Harding with leaning toward Moscow," he added.

Mr. Hays said that the union printers were simply asking for the delivery of "goods" which they contracted for over two years ago.

"In April, 1919," he explained, "the National Joint Conference Council, formed at the request of the employing printers, and composed of duly accredited representatives of the Closed Shop branch of United Typographers and the Printers' League of America, which are employing printers' organizations, and the International Typographical Union and three other printing trade craft unions, unanimously agreed to the establishment of the 44-hour week on May 1, 1921."

as a part of their industrial reconstruction plans.

"The local printing employers," he continued, "were at that time members of the Closed Shop branch of the United Typographers, or had been requested to join, as they were then employing union printers, and voice their opinions through their representatives on the National Joint Conference Council. Those who did join are morally, if not legally, bound to carry out the provisions of that vote. Those who did not avail themselves of the opportunity should take their own medicine without whimpering."

"The charge that the 44-hour week will increase the cost of printing to the consumer is at least open to question. Increased efficiency, which has heretofore been the result of decreased working hours, will very likely balance the actual cost of the shorter working week. As cost systems are usually established only after a year of operation."

"The average age of the members of the Typographical union, who died last year was 53.17 years. An applicant for membership in the union must be at least 21 years of age, the 'expectancy' of the 21-year-old printer is but 32.17 years of life. The American Experience Table of Mortality, covering all American citizens, shows the 'expectancy' of the 21-year-old average American citizen to be slightly more than 41 years, indicating an average age at death of more than 62 years. Printers are therefore dying about nine years before the average American citizen is dying."

While the general public blames the printing trade as a number of the Closed Shop branch of the Typographical union, which is the union of the Denver, Colo., Typographical union, proves the contrary.

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"Nationally the strike to enforce the 44-hour week appears to be won," said Mr. Hays. "According to information from our national headquarters at Indianapolis only about 10,000 men of a membership of 72,000 are out, New York City, where more than half of the country's printing is done, has signed the 44-hour agreement. The Typographical Union is asking for the fulfillment of a contract made by agreement more than two years ago, and for nine more years of life."

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American Express to Cut Pay. NEW YORK, May 4.—The American Express company announced today it had notified its 80,000 employees that it contemplated a revision in wages effective June 1. A revision of working hours and conditions also is to be made. About half the employees belong to unions.

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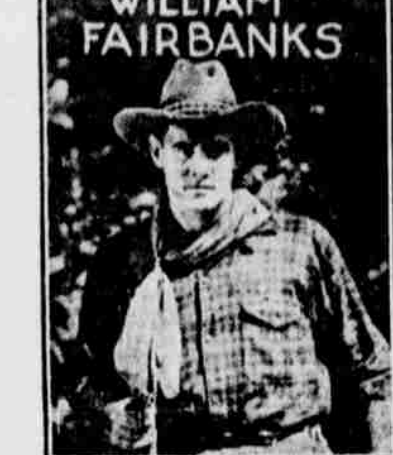
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